



School of St. Philip
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December 9, 2021

Dear families,

We follow the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recommendations for quarantines. They have a very thorough decision tree. For every case that we encounter, a call is made to MDH to discuss the specifics of the case and make a determination as to whether or not a student needs to quarantine. With the rise in COVID cases and updated vaccine availability for younger children, I wanted to make you aware of changes in quarantine recommendations as there are exceptions: As found on the MDH website:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguide.pdf>

- a. Quarantine exception: students in an indoor K-12 classroom who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student do not need to quarantine if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.
- b. For support in determining who may be eligible for this quarantine exception, review the [CDC: Steps for Determining Close Contact and Quarantine in K-12 Schools](#) (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/K-12-infographic.html).

And on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/K-12-infographic.html>

Does the close contact need to quarantine?

If they are NOT FULLY VACCINATED

The close contact needs to [quarantine](#).

The close contact should monitor for symptoms and [get tested](#) immediately and again 5–7 days after the exposure. The close contact should [wear a mask](#) if they must be around others.

A school or public health official will determine the length of the quarantine. CDC recommends a total of 14 days from the date of the exposure.

Regardless of vaccination status, if a close contact develops [symptoms](#), they should [isolate](#) and [get tested](#) immediately.

If they are FULLY VACCINATED

The close contact does not need to [quarantine](#).

The close contact should monitor for [symptoms](#), [get tested](#) 5–7 days after the exposure, and [wear a mask](#) indoors in public for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.

Regardless of vaccination status, if a close contact develops [symptoms](#), they should [isolate](#) and [get tested](#) immediately.

If they have had COVID-19 WITHIN THE PAST 90 DAYS, COMPLETED ISOLATION, and RECOVERED

The close contact does not need to [quarantine](#).

The close contact should monitor for [symptoms](#), [wear a mask](#) indoors in public for 14 days, and speak with a healthcare professional about testing recommendations.

Close contacts who had a prior infection in the past 90 days and who develop new [symptoms](#) should [isolate](#) immediately and consult a healthcare professional for testing recommendations.



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Exposure to COVID can happen in classrooms. It has happened in our school. Our priority is keeping everyone in school safe and healthy. Just like last year our goal is to keep our in person learning model all year long. We can do this with your help.

As of this morning 17.5% of our students are vaccinated. Another 8.7% have tested positive for COVID. These children are exempt from quarantine and be able to remain in school. Please provide us with any positive or negative test results for our records. Also send a copy of any vaccinations so that we can update our immunization file. If an exposure occurs, students that are masked are also exempt. They must be consistently masked not just sometimes. Even when they are working alone at their desk, they would need to be masked.

If you would like your child to wear a mask, please notify your child's teacher and/or the office and we will make sure that happens. If your child is ill, keep them home and notify us. We are all in this together and by helping each other we **will** get through this once again.

Yours in Christ,

Percy Lingen, principal